

REMARKS

Claims 47-49 and 68-74 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in light of the amendments herein are respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

By this paper, it is proposed to amend Claim 47 to correct an inconsistency noted during review of the claims. Specifically, in line 10 of claim 47, “verbal call designation indicators” has been amended to recite “verbal call destination indicators,” in order to conform this recitation to similar wording in line 6 of claim 47. This amendment is not made for any reason related to patentability but to improve the readability of the claims. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested in order to place the application in condition for allowance or to narrow the issues for appeal.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 47-49 and 68-75 stand finally rejected under 37 C.F.R. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over International Patent Publication number WO 90/53582 to Miller (“Miller”) in view of U.S. patent number 6,744,861 to Pershan, et al. (“Pershan”). Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The present invention does not involve receiving verbal or oral input, as the final rejection appears to suggest. The final rejection makes reference to Miller teaching “a World Wide Web display ... configured to *receive verbal input* from subscriber....” (*emphasis added*) (paragraph 3, page 2) and to Pershan teaching methods ... such as *voice dialing* using AIN techniques” (*emphasis added*) (paragraph 3, page 3). However, claims 47-49 and 68-75 do not recite the receipt of verbal input or voice dialing. Reconsideration of the final rejection of these claims in light of this fact is respectfully requested.

As proposed to be amended herein, claim 47 recites

providing to the subscriber a World Wide Web display including data entry slots configured to receive *verbal call destination indicators* and *corresponding telephone numbers*;

(emphasis added). As rewritten here, the claim language is broken up to more clearly present the emphasized limitations. First, the provided World Wide Web display includes data entry slots. These slots are to receive two things: (1) verbal call destination indicators, and (2) corresponding telephone numbers.

Despite the use of the word “verbal” in claim 47, the sense of the use of this word here is “involving words,” not “oral” or “spoken.” Reference to the Specification of the present application makes this clear: Page 22, line 23 – page 23, line 2 discloses:

The embodiment of FIG. 10 provides a World Wide Web interface where **the user can populate the dialed digits and select from pre-recorded voice files that associate the number to a spoken name or place.** An example might be **associating the text or voice file containing data for “Mom’s Office” and the telephone number (708) 555-3232.** The end result, after presentation of a menu of options including this one, would be that the caller presses a number such as one on the key pad after **hearing the menu including the choice of “call Mom’s Office.”** In one embodiment, the corresponding telephone number is not provided or not accessible to the calling party. **Only a text or audible message identifying the menu option is provided to the caller.** This maintains a level of privacy that may be desired by some subscribers. *(emphasis added)*.

Thus, consistent with the Specification, the “verbal call destination indicators” of claim 47 are “pre-recorded voice files” or text “containing data for” menu options to be presented to a caller. These indicators are NOT spoken verbal input or voice dialing as the Final Rejection seems to suggest.

In summary, claim 47 defines a method for establishing call routing information that may be established by a subscriber prior to receiving calls from a caller. Using a provided WWW display with data entry slots, (1) data related to the verbal call destination indicators (such as data related to the “pre-recorded voice files” or text defining menu options to be provided to the caller) is received, and (2) telephone numbers which correspond to the destination indicators are received.

With respect to the cited references, Miller relates to an “internet-based subscriber profile management of a communications system.” A service subscriber can configure, manage and update these services over a network such as the Internet (page 2, lines 21-27). The subscriber can update profiles, including adding or changing telephone numbers in call routing (page 18, line 26 – page 19, line 7). The updated profiles are sent to a mainframe profile management system, which in turn, updates the subscriber’s profile database of records and distributes the profile to network implementation distribution servers (NIDS) (page 19, lines 3-7).

Miller fails to disclose the invention defined by claim 47. Miller does disclose a system which “

allows subscribers to update their profiles, including adding or changing telephone numbers in their find-me routing, change schedules in their follow-me routing, add default or alternative routing and numerous other possibilities described herein.

Miller does not disclose all the limitations of the present invention, including “providing ... data entry slots configured to receive verbal call destination indicators and corresponding telephone numbers,” and “receiving ... a data transmission containing data related to the verbal call destination indicators and the corresponding telephone numbers” as those terms are used herein.

Further, as previously noted, Miller does not show, describe or suggest allowing subscribers to modify the subscribers’ profiles stored in an AIN telecommunication system at the SCP or Service Node or Intelligent Peripheral (SN/IP).

Pershan does not provide the missing teaching. Pershan actually relates to method and apparatus for providing voice dialing services, including in an AIN system (Summary). As noted above, the present invention does not relate to such voice dialing technology.

Even if Miller and Pershan are combined as proposed, the combination fails to disclose all the limitations of independent claim 47, including those quoted immediately above. Neither reference teaches the receipt of “verbal call destination indicators and the corresponding telephone numbers” as those terms are used herein.

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Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 47, as amended, is patentable over the cited references. Claims 47-49 and 68-75 are dependent from claim 47 and are allowable for the same reasons. Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

Moreover, the present invention defined by independent claim 47 affords unique benefits not available in the prior art. As explained at page 22, line 15, to page 26, line 3. "In this manner, update information received over the internet 1006 at the web server 1008 from a subscriber using the device 1002 may be verified for accuracy and completion and used to insert or modify the data stored in the network 1016" (page 24, lines 15-18). Also, by designating the verbal call destination indicator "Mom's Office," only this information is provided to caller, not the actual telephone number of Mom's Office. "In one embodiment, the corresponding telephone number is not provided or not accessible to the calling party. Only a text or audible message identifying the menu option is provided to the caller. This maintains a level of privacy that may be desired by some subscribers" (page 22, line 29 – page 23, line 2).

Withdrawal of the final rejection, reconsideration of the pending claims and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

With this response, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the examiner deem a telephone conference to be of assistance in advancing the application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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